

### **NATURE OF THE CASE**

FIRST: Defendant denies, in the form alleged therein, each and every allegation contained in paragraph number "1" of the plaintiff's complaint.

### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

SECOND: Defendant admits that this Court has original jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C §1332(a)(1), and further admits that this Court has personal jurisdiction over the defendant on the basis that defendant has its principal place of business in this District. Defendant denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph number "2" of plaintiff's complaint.

THIRD: Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph number "3" of the plaintiff's complaint.

### **PARTIES**

FOURTH: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph number "4" of the plaintiff's complaint.

FIFTH: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph number "5" of the plaintiff's complaint except admits that Perk-Up, Inc., is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York and has its principal place of business at 399 Knollwood Road, White Plains, New York, and that Perk-Up, Inc. does business as Kari-Out Co.

SIXTH: Defendant denies having any knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph number "6" of the plaintiff's complaint, except admits that Perk-Up, Inc. d/b/a Kari-Out Co. sells its products in interstate commerce.

#### FACTUAL BACKGROUND

SEVENTH: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph number "7" of the plaintiff's complaint, except admits that Perk-Up, Inc. d/b/a Kari-Out Co. agreed to purchase certain equipment from plaintiff, and that said equipment was situated at the plaintiff's facility located in South Bend, Indiana.

EIGHTH: Defendant denies, in the form alleged therein, the allegations contained in paragraph number "8" of the plaintiff's complaint, except admits that Perk Up Inc., d/b/a Kari-Out Club Co. was not a subcontractor of Shambaugh & Son, LP.

NINTH: Defendant denies, in the form alleged therein, the allegations contained in paragraph number "9" of the plaintiff's complaint, except admits that a Shambaugh & Son, LP employee did speak with employees of Perk-Up, Inc. d/b/a Kari-Out Co.

TENTH: Defendant denies, in the form alleged therein, the allegations contained in paragraph number "10" of the plaintiff's complaint.

ELEVENTH: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph number "11" of the plaintiff's complaint.

TWELFTH: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph number "12" of the plaintiff's complaint, except admits that a Perk-Up, Inc. d/b/a Kari-Out Co. employee discharged a fire extinguisher in an attempt to extinguish the fire.

THIRTEENTH: Defendant denies each and every allegation contained in paragraph number "13" of the plaintiff's complaint.

FOURTEENTH: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph number "14" of the plaintiff's complaint.

FIFTEENTH: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph number "15" of the plaintiff's complaint.

SIXTEENTH: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph number "16" of the plaintiff's complaint.

SEVENTEENTH: Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph number "17" of the plaintiff's complaint.

EIGHTEENTH: Defendant admits the allegations contained in paragraph number "18" of the plaintiff's complaint.

NINETEENTH: Defendant denies, in the form alleged therein, each and every allegation contained in paragraph number "19" of the plaintiff's complaint.

#### COUNT I

#### COMMON LAW NEGLIGENCE

TWENTIETH: Answering paragraph number "20" of the plaintiff's complaint, defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every denial heretofore made in regard to each and every paragraph of plaintiff's complaint, designated as paragraphs "1" through "19", inclusive, with the same force and effect as though more fully set forth at length herein.

TWENTY-FIRST: Defendant denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph number "21" of the plaintiff's complaint, and otherwise refers all questions of law to this Honorable Court.

TWENTY-SECOND: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph number "22" of the plaintiff's complaint.

TWENTY-THIRD: Defendant denies the allegations contained in paragraph number "22" of the plaintiff's complaint.

AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF, THE DEFENDANT, UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, ALLEGES:

TWENTY-FOURTH: If the plaintiff had been damaged as alleged in plaintiff's complaint, upon information and belief, such damages were caused, in whole or in part, or were contributed to by reason of the carelessness, negligence or want of care on the part of the plaintiff and not by any carelessness, negligence or want of care, on the part of the defendant, and if any carelessness, negligence or want of care other than that of the plaintiff caused or contributed to said alleged damages, it was the carelessness, negligence or want of care on the part of some other party or persons, contractor, sub-contractor, firm or corporation, his, its or their agents, servants or employees over whom the answering defendant had no control, and for whose carelessness, negligence or want of care defendant is not and was not responsible or liable.

AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF, THE DEFENDANT, UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, ALLEGES:

TWENTY-FIFTH: Whatever damages were sustained by the plaintiff at the time and place alleged in the complaint were in whole or in part the result of the plaintiff's own culpable conduct or of the conduct of plaintiff's contractors and/or sub-contractors.

## AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF, THE DEFENDANT, UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, ALLEGES:

TWENTY-SIXTH: If the answering defendant is found to be liable, the liability of such defendant to the plaintiff for economic loss shall not exceed the defendant's equitable share determined in accordance with the relative culpability of each person causing or contributing to the total liability.

# AS AND FOR A FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF, THE DEFENDANT, UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, ALLEGES:

TWENTY-SEVENTH: Upon information and belief, any past or future costs and/or expenses incurred or to be incurred by the plaintiff for economic loss, has been or will with reasonable certainty be replaced or indemnified in whole or in part from a collateral source. If any damages are recoverable against the answering defendant, the amount of such damages shall be diminished by the amount of the funds which plaintiff has received or shall receive from such collateral source.

# AS AND FOR A FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF, THE DEFENDANT, UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, ALLEGES:

TWENTY-EIGHTH: Plaintiff has failed to name all proper parties, including, but not necessarily limited to Shambaugh & Son, LP.

# AS AND FOR A SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF, THE DEFENDANT, UPON INFORMATION AND BELIEF, ALLEGES:

TWENTY-NINTH: Plaintiff has failed to mitigate their damages.

WHEREFORE, defendant demands judgment dismissing the plaintiffs complaint herein, together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

Dated: Melville, New York October 1, 2007

Yours, etc.,

LEWIS JOHS AVALLONE AVILES, LLP Attorneys for Defendant 425 Broad Hollow Road, Suite 400 Melville, NY 11747 631.755.0101

itkatz@lewisjohs.com

TO:

DLA PIPER US LLP 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020-1104

David H. Berger (pro hac vice motion pending) Syma Mirza (not admitted in SDNY) DLA Piper USA 1200 19th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20036 Attorney for Plaintiff McCormick & Company

STATE OF NEW YORK)

) S.S.:

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK)

JESSICA COLANGELO, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

That deponent is not a party to the within action, is over 18 years of age and resides in Oceanside, New York.

That on the 1st day of October, 2007, deponent served the within ANSWER on the attorneys below set forth representing the parties, as indicated, at the addresses shown, said addresses being designated by said attorneys for that purpose:

DLA PIPER US LLP 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020-1104

David H. Berger (pro hac vice motion pending) Syma Mirza (not admitted in SDNY) DLA Piper USA 1200 19th Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20036 Attorney for Plaintiff McCormick & Company

by depositing a true copy of same enclosed in a postpaid properly addressed wrapper in an official depository under the exclusive care and custody of the United States Post Office Department within the State of New York

Sworn to before me this 1st day of October, 2007.

LINDA LANSKY

Notary Public, State of New York Registration No. 01LA5078604 Qualified in Nassau County Commission Expires: 05/27/11

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK McCORMICK & CO., INC., Plaintiff, - against -KARI-OUT CLUB, LLC, Defendants ANSWER LEWIS **I** JOHS Lewis Johs Avallone Aviles, LLP Counsellors at Law Attorneys for Office and Post Office Address 425 Broad Hollow Road, Suite 400 • Melville, NY 11747 631.755.0101 • Fax 631 755 0117 FILE #:\_ CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 22 N.Y.C.R.R. § 130-1.1a The undersigned hereby certifies that, pursuant to 22 N.Y.C.R.R. § 130-1.1a, the contentions contained in the annexed document(s) is not frivolous nor frivolously presented Service of a copy of the within is hereby admitted. Dated, Attorney(s) for Sir: Please take notice □ NOTICE OF ENTRY that the within is a (certified) true copy of a duly entered in the office of the clerk of the within named court on 20 ☐ NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT that an order of which the within is a true copy will be presented for settlement to the HON one of the judges

of the within named court, at

on

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20

M.

Dated,

LEWIS **Z** JOHS Lewis Johs Avallone Aviles, LLP

Yours. etc

Counsellors at Law

To

Attorneys for

Attorney(s) for